INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 700 — Washington, D. C. — June 4, 1938

CONGRESS SUMMARY

Wage-Hour and Food-Drug Bills Now Being Considered by Conference Committees

The two legislative measures of chief interest to the canning industry—wage and hour and food and drug—are now in the hands of conference committees that have the task of reconciling differences between House and Senate bills.

The Conference Committee on wage and hour legislation held its first meeting on Thursday afternoon. Senator Thomas of Utah, the Committee Chairman, stated that the meeting had covered the whole subject in a general way but that the details of the conflicting House and Senate bills had not been discussed. When questioned as to the probable time necessary to draw up an acceptable bill, the Senator replied that he was in no hurry and that after such an important subject had been before Congress for two years the Conference Committee could well afford to "spend a minute" in arriving at a good bill.

Representative Ramspeck pointed out after the meeting adjourned that of the seven House conferees four had voted in the Labor Committee for his substitute proposal which provided for differentials and was quite similar to the Senate bill.

The Conference Committee is composed of Senators Thomas of Utah, Walsh of Massachusetts, Murray of Montana, Pepper of Florida, Ellender of Louisiana, Borah of Idaho, and LaFollette of Wisconsin; Representatives Norton of New Jersey, Ramspeck of Georgia, Keller of Illinois, Dunn of Pennsylvania, Randolph of West Virginia, Welch of California, and Hartley of New Jersey.

The House on June 1 passed with minor amendments the food and drug bill (S. 5) as reported by the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee on April 14. The House bill amended the Copeland bill passed in March, 1937, by substituting a completely redrafted and largely revised measure. Late in the week the legislation was sent to conference. The Senate conferees are Senators Copeland of New York, Bailey of North Carolina, Clark of Missouri, Caraway of Arkansas, McNary of Oregon, Vandenberg of Michigan, and Gibson of Vermont. The House conferees are Representatives Lea of California, Chapman of Kentucky, Cole of Maryland, Pettengill of Indiana, Pearson of Tennessee, Mapes of Michigan, Halleck of Indiana, and Reece of Tennessee.

An analysis of the original Copeland bill was published in INFORMATION LETTER No. 640 (March 13, 1937). The important provisions in which the House revision differs from the Senate bill were reviewed in INFORMATION LETTER No. 693 (April 16, 1938).

The chief problem of the conferees, it is anticipated, will be to reconcile the differences in the court review sections of the two bills. The Secretary of Agriculture has expressed dissatisfaction with the provisions in the House bill.

Among the minor changes made by the House in its consideration of the bill reported by its Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee was the adoption of amendments exempting dried fruits, dried vegetables, and cheese from the quality standard and standard of identity provisions. Another minor change provides, in the section which permits the Secretary of Agriculture to issue warnings to persons making minor violations of the Act, that only one such warning shall be given any person. Subsequent violations would be reported to the United States attorney for prosecution.

By a 12 to 7 vote the House Committee on Judiciary on Thursday approved a companion bill to Senator Walsh's proposed amendment to the Walsh-Healey Government Contracts Act. Before reporting the measure the House Committee eliminated a section of the bill which would have extended the Act to subcontracts where the amount equaled $500 or more; otherwise the bill is similar to the reported Senate bill and would extend the Act's provisions to contracts of $2,000 and would place on a black list bidders found to be violating the National Labor Relations Act.

Dulany Honored by University of Maryland

At the commencement of the University of Maryland on Saturday, June 4, Ralph O. Dulany received an "Honorary Certificate of Merit in Agriculture."

Each year the University selects three citizens of Maryland who are outstanding for leadership and achievement in agriculture and confers upon them this honorary recognition. The citation in connection with this recognition of Mr. Dulany refers to "his distinguished achievements in advancing the canning industry in both the state and the nation, as an outstanding leader and business man in this important industry, and as former President of the National Canners Association."

Chicago Selected for Convention

Chicago has been designated by President Karl Kuner Mayer as the location of the 1939 annual convention of the National Canners Association. The date of the convention, as set by the Board of Directors of the Association at its meeting on May 20, will be the week of January 22, 1939. Representatives of the National Canners Association, the National Food Brokers Association, the Canning Machinery and Supplies Association, and the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association met with representatives of the Chicago hotels at Washington on June 2 to complete the arrangements for hotel reservations, etc.

President Mayer arrived at his decision after a careful study of the convention location problem, involving extensive correspondence and conferences with canners, analysis of facilities offered in Chicago and Atlantic City, and discussion of the question at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors.

D. C. BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX

Assessor of Taxes Reviews Provisions of Law as Recently Reenacted

The Association has received from the Office of the Assessor of the District of Columbia the following circular statement with respect to the District of Columbia business privilege tax:

"The District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, Public Act No. 314 (H. R. 7472), approved by the President of the United States on August 17, 1937, was re-enacted under the District of Columbia Revenue Act of 1937, As Amended and continued for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, by Public Act No. 519 (H. R. 10066), approved by the President on May 16, 1938, requires that every person engaged in business in the District of Columbia on August 17, 1937, or who shall engage in business therein after that date, shall obtain a license so to do, and shall in addition pay a tax based on gross receipts derived from such business in the District of Columbia, in excess of $2,000, annually. This law applies to every person, resident or non-resident, doing business in the District of Columbia.

"Liability of non-resident persons or firms is not confined to those who maintain in the District a branch office or resident representative. A non-resident is subject to the provisions of this Act if he solicits business in the District of Columbia either in person, through an agent, employee, broker or other representative, even though orders obtained through such solicitation may be subject to acceptance or ratification by the principal at his place of business. In addition, persons who ship goods into the District of Columbia in their own equipment, or in any manner (as C.O.D., etc.) whereby he retains title to the goods until delivery into the District, are subject to this law irrespective of the manner in which the orders for such goods were obtained.

"Steamboat companies and trucking and transfer companies are subject to the provisions of this Act, unless such companies are operated directly by railroad or railroad express companies which are exempted from the provisions of said Title.

"The tax imposed and the license required by this law apply to the principal and to the agent except where the agent is an *employee* in every sense of the word. The principal is required to obtain but one license even though he may have a number or representatives calling on the District trade, as the principal will be furnished gratis a certificate of license to be carried by each representative.

"Due to ignorance of the law during the past year, a number of firms were required to pay penalties for filing late returns and this office has no discretion in the waiving of such penalties. In order to reduce the number of late returns during the next fiscal year (1938-1939), we are endeavoring to reach as many persons affected by this law as can be reasonably contacted through the medium of national or sectional organizations such as yours.

"Applications for licenses must be accompanied by the license fee of $10.00, and must be filed on or before June 17, 1938. (This date is an extension from May 31, 1938, as written in the law). For this reason, we are asking that you incorporate in your next periodical communication to your members a warning that they should apply for license in sufficient time to avoid the $5.00 penalty for late application. The law, as amended, for the fiscal year 1938-1939 provides 'That no license shall be renewed if the taxpayer has failed or refused to pay any tax or installment thereof or penalties thereon imposed by this Title as originally enacted or amended.'

"The Return on Gross Receipts required under the amended law for the fiscal year 1938-1939, based on gross receipts for the calendar year 1937, must be filed during July, 1938. Copies of the laws and regulations governing same are in process of printing and will be mailed you as soon as available, approximately June 15, 1938.

"Any further information that may be desired will be readily furnished by this office and any cooperation on your part will be greatly appreciated."

MOLD COUNT IN TOMATO JUICE

Food and Drug Administration Asks Canners' Comment on Suggested Tolerance

The Association is in receipt of a letter from Mr. W. G. Campbell, Chief of the Food and Drug Administration, stating that the letter quoted below is being sent to manufacturers of tomato juice. It will be noted that this letter is sent out for criticism, and it is hoped that tomato juice canners will take advantage of this opportunity and write to the Food and Drug Administration giving their opinion regarding the suggested change in tolerance. Such a letter should be sent promptly, as Mr. Campbell's letter indicates that the Food and Drug Administration will take action regarding the matter in the very near future. Mr. Campbell's letter reads as follows:

"On July 1, 1936, the Food and Drug Administration issued an announcement to tomato juice packers, entitled 'Mold Count and Added Water.' In this it was pointed out that the addition of water to tomato juice constitutes an adulteration within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act. The statement was also made that pending consideration of a further reduction in the tolerance, the Food and Drug Administration would not institute action on tomato juice on the basis of mold count unless 35 per cent or more of the microscopic fields showed mold filaments.

"Since the issuance of that announcement comprehensive studies have been made of commercial tomato juice manufacture in important producing sections of the United States. Factories in ten producing States have been visited, plant operations observed, and representative samples collected and examined for mold count. This investigation has confirmed the statement in the announcement of July 1, 1936, that the majority of tomato juice manufacturers carefully eliminate moldy material from their stock before the manufacture of tomato juice. Examination of the samples indicates that a product of the character and consistency of tomato juice can readily be kept below a mold count of 20 per cent of the microscopic fields examined. The Administration contemplates setting the mold count tolerance at this figure for the coming season. Before doing so it invites the comments of tomato juice manufacturers. If you have any comments to make upon this proposal we will appreciate it if they can be put in our hands within ten days after receipt of this letter. In any event, will you be good enough to acknowledge receipt of this letter."

Three Hearings Scheduled on Hops Program

Public hearings on a proposed marketing agreement and order for hops growers in California, Oregon, and Washington will open June 14 at Santa Rosa, California; June 17, at Salem, Oregon; and June 20, at Yakima, Washington. The hearings previously were called for earlier dates but were postponed at the request of the hop industry.

MATURITY TERMS FOR PEAS

Labeling Committee Submits Recommendations in Letter to Canners

As proposed by the Labeling Committee in its report to the Board of Directors, the chairman of the Committee on Descriptive Labeling of Canned Peas, Mr. John L. Baxter, has sent a letter to all pea canners recommending that maturity be described on labels as "Very Young," "Young," or "Nearly Mature." After listing the terms for size, etc., that have already been agreed upon, the letter states:

"The Committee found it impossible to devise any objective test for the tenderness of canned peas, but study and application to canned peas of the alcohol insoluble solids test has convinced us that it is a reasonably reliable test of their maturity. In at least one respect, that of process-softened peas, it is more important to the purchaser to know the maturity of the product than its tenderness. In most other respects it is as important as tenderness or synonymous with it. We therefore recommend that maturity be described on the labels in the following descriptive terms: 'Very Young,' 'Young,' or 'Nearly Mature.'

"Our work in applying the alcohol insoluble solids test to canned peas during the past three years causes us to recommend that the industry consider applying these terms as per the following schedule; the schedule being tentative only and subject to change if further information shows the need for it:

Pea variety	Maturity designations		
	"Very Young"	"Young"	"Nearly Mature"
	% *A.I.S.*	% *A.I.S.*	% *A.I.S.*
Alaska:			
2 sieve	Up to 12.8	12.9–17.1	17.2–21.5
3 sieve	" " 14.2	14.3–18.3	18.4–22.8
4 sieve	" " 15.3	15.4–19.8	19.9–23.5
5 sieve	" " 17.0	17.1–21.2	21.3–23.5
Sweets:			
2 sieve	Up to 10.0	10.1–12.5	12.6–14.9
3 sieve	" " 10.3	10.4–14.0	14.1–17.8
4 sieve	" " 11.9	12.0–15.7	15.8–19.5
5 sieve	" " 14.0	14.1–17.4	17.5–20.7

The letter states that while its work indicates that the foregoing schedule is correct, it is desired that the Committee's recommendations be checked against canners' ideas and practice, and the suggestion is made that samples be sent to the Research Laboratory for alcohol insoluble solids test.

Hearings Planned on Potato Program

Public hearings will be held in 24 localities in 16 States beginning June 13 on a proposed long-time marketing agreement program requested by commercial potato growers of 17 late producing States to regulate the handling of Irish potatoes in interstate commerce, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced May 28. The proposed agreement is designed to regulate shipment of potatoes produced in designated counties of California and in the States of Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Change in Apple Butter Specifications

Federal Specification Z-A-616 for apple butter has been amended by the addition of a sentence setting a minimum of water soluble solids, and by increasing the net weight for No. 2, No. 2½, and No. 10 cans, according to a letter received by the Association under date of June 1, 1938, from Capt. Paul P. Logan, Chairman of the Provisions Committee of the Federal Specifications Executive Committee.

The following sentence has been added to Paragraph E of the specifications:

"Shall contain not less than 43 per cent water soluble solids as determined by refractometer at 20° C. without correction for the insoluble solids present."

The following changes have been made in Paragraph H-1a(1):

"In commercial cans as follows:

No. 2, average net weight 1 pound 7 ounces, 24 cans to the case.

No. 2½, average net weight 2 pounds 1 ounce, 24 cans to the case.

No. 10, average net weight 7 pounds 8 ounces, 6 cans to the case."

These changes have been approved and will be incorporated in an amendment which will probably require from six weeks to three months to print and circulate. Purchases by most government offices are made on these Federal specifications.

ENDORSES SAUTHOFF BILL

Conference on Weights and Measures Supports Plan to Limit Can Sizes

Discussion of the question of can-size simplification at the National Conference on Weights and Measures held in Washington this week led to the adoption of a resolution endorsing without qualifications the Sauthoff bill (H.R. 6964) to limit and fix the capacity of containers for canned foodstuffs. The resolution described the Sauthoff bill as one "which is intended to accomplish the necessary control of this matter in a manner consistent with the beliefs of this conference."

A report by George Warner, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the State of Wisconsin, upon his appearance at the hearing on the Sauthoff bill, summarized the hearing by saying that the real issue as developed there was whether standardization is to be accomplished by voluntary cooperation, or is to be made mandatory by Federal legislation.

Alex Pisciotta, Director of the Bureau of Weights and Measures, Department of Markets, New York City, spoke on standardization of packages, and made public a draft of a proposed amendment to the Administrative Code of New York City which would fix standards of capacity for containers of specified products, require the net contents to be indicated on all containers, and prescribe methods of marking. The ordinance apparently is not intended to apply to products of the canning industry. Mr. Pisciotta called attention to the fact that all commodities were not included, explaining that he wanted to pave the way with a few items and, if successful in having these packed in standard containers, let action as to others follow.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	May 28, 1937	May 28, 1938	May 21, 1938	May 28, 1937	May 28, 1938
VEGETABLES					
Beans, snap and lima	442	231	333	7,098	7,379
Tomatoes	1,188	1,213	1,590	10,250	18,670
Green peas	457	113	345	3,151	3,080
Spinach	1	1	4	8,099	6,460
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly	2,957	3,246	4,284	102,919	100,062
Imports competing—					
Directly	4	0	6	382	276
Indirectly	2	3	8	1,721	2,346
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic	2,667	3,833	4,317	111,341	122,038
Imports	16	3	2	189	132
Others, domestic	142	398	956	17,927	18,895

Truckmen in New York Indicted for Racketeering

Complaints from seven Eastern States that union truckmen in New York City were using gangster methods to gouge millions out of the merchandise-hauling industry have resulted in the indictment of seventy-six men on Federal charges of racketeering. Two indictments returned on May 31 by a special Federal grand jury in New York named eight officers and delegates and sixty-two members of Local No. 807 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America and six other individuals.

Each of the defendants, if convicted, faces a possible sentence of forty-one years' imprisonment and a fine of $50,000. They were charged with violating the Federal Anti-Racketeering Act of 1934, enforced for the first time in New York State, and the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

The indictments alleged the defendants, using force and threats of violence, extorted $1,000,000 or more annually from the merchandise-hauling industry. Flying squadrons of union men, the grand jury charged, met the trucks of out-of-town shippers and truckers at the city limits and compelled them to pay $9.42 apiece for a Local 807 driver, whether or not the driver was used or needed. In addition, the indictments alleged, "shakedowns" of from $1,000 to $10,000 were demanded from shippers and truck owners for the privilege of being allowed to operate without interference.

American Tomato Juice Sales to England

Imports of canned tomato juice into the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended April 30, 1938, amounted to 3,576 cases, compared with 2,752 for the same period of 1937, and 3,107 cases for the five weeks ended March 26, 1938. Of the total the United States supplied 3,306 cases, Canada 25, and others 245, according to the Imperial Economic Committee. Total imports of tomato juice into the United Kingdom from January 1 to April 30, 1938, amounted to 8,656 cases. The larger shipments during the last five weeks of this period enabled the United States to supplant Canada as the largest supplier of this product, with 4,716 cases for the four months, compared with 2,025 from Canada, and 1,915 from other countries.

English Home Economist Broadcasts Over WRC

Miss Janet Bond of the Metal Box Company, London, who is visiting in Washington, had opportunity to broadcast on the Home Forum of WRC on May 31st. Miss Bond was interviewed by Miss Mary Mason, who asked her about the work of a home economist in Great Britain and what the British Canned Foods Advisory Bureau is planning to do to interest women in using the products of the canning industry.

After the broadcast was over Miss Mason reported that an English woman telephoned to thank her for putting one of her countrywomen on the program and said that it was delightful to hear such a charming British voice again.

Miss Bond is studying the work of the government departments dealing with home economics, as well as becoming acquainted with the Home Economics Women in Business in Washington.

Tomato Plant Situation

Large quantities of tomato plants were shipped from Georgia and other southern points and set in Indiana prior to the middle of May, according to trade reports. During the week of May 9, however, several killing frosts destroyed millions of these plants. During the week beginning Monday, May 16, almost continuous rains prevented the setting of plants. During the same period Georgia suffered from drought. During the week beginning May 23, however, tomato plant setting began in earnest, and a large part of the acreage in the Midwest was set during the week. Corn planting, however, has interfered with the setting of tomotoes, with a net result that much of the tomato acreage will probably be set late, and some of it may not be set at all.

Rains on May 24 and 25 in Georgia improved the plant situation considerably, and large supplies were pulled and shipped out the latter part of the week.

Southern Illinois and Kentucky are also supplying large quantities of plants for setting in northern districts of the Midwest. It is too early to tell what effect the tomato plant situation will have on the acreage of tomatoes.

Red Sour Pitted Cherries Bid Date Changed

In the INFORMATION LETTER for May 24, announcement was made of the Veterans Administration's request for bids on 3,150 dozen No. 10 cans of red sour pitted cherries, the opening date to be June 15. The Administration now advises that bids will be opened on June 28 instead of June 15 as previously announced.

Boys' Class Uses Home Economics Material

A letter received by the Home Economics Division this week from a vocational institution in New York State is interesting because it brings out the point that boys as well as girls are interested in the facts about a basic food industry such as the canning industry. To quote from the letter:

"May I thank you for the educational teaching material which has been prepared by your organization. This material has been examined by the related subject matter teachers and also the shop teachers concerned with the particular

subject. We find that this and similar material is of great value to us in planning our instructional program in this institution.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in helping us to prepare teaching material suitable for the vocational training of the boys in this institution."

Canned Fruit Arrivals in British Ports

Arrivals of canned fruit at the principal British ports in the five weeks ended April 30, totaled 1,135,400 cases, a decline of 184,200 cases under the total for the preceding five weeks, according to a report of the Imperial Economic Committee. There were marked reductions in the arrivals of peaches and pears, and receipts of apples, apricots, oranges, and fruit salad also were on a smaller scale. The only important variety to show an appreciable increase was grapefruit, although arrivals of "other fruit" were nearly trebled.

Additional Supplies of Shrimp Found

Additional supplies of large shrimp have been located in the offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico by the Bureau of Fisheries research ship "Pelican", which returned to Gulfport, Mississippi last week, after a month's exploratory cruise along the Texas and Louisiana coasts. Several concentrations of shrimp were encountered between Trinity and Ship Shoals off the Louisiana coast in from eight to ten fathoms. These shrimp were the large firm "Jumbo" shrimp much desired by the industry. The Morgan City, Louisiana, shrimp fleet fished some of these concentrations in the Trinity Shoal area, but no commercial fishermen have worked the concentrations found by the "Pelican" about midway between Trinity and Ship Shoals. A small concentration of grooved shrimp was encountered in from twenty to thirty fathoms west of the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Wholesale Trade in April

Dollar volume of wholesale trade declined 18½ per cent during April as compared with April, 1937, and 4.7 per cent (without adjustment for seasonal variations) as compared with March, 1938, according to reports from almost 1,900 wholesalers cooperating in the monthly joint study of the National Association of Credit Men and the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The decrease in sales from the same month of the previous year was the largest that has been recorded during the period of decline which began last October.

In the grocery and food trade, except farm products, 378 firms reported that the dollar value of sales in April of this year was 13.4 per cent less than sales in April, 1937, and 6.1 per cent below March, 1938. The 189 grocery and food firms furnishing figures on end-of-month inventory, reported cost value of stocks was 6.1 per cent less than at end of April, 1937, and 5.1 per cent less than at end of March, 1938. This may be compared with inventory cost value figures reported by 1,120 wholesale firms, which showed a decrease of 11.9 per cent in April, 1938, below April, 1937, and a drop of 2.9 per cent below the preceding month.

Report on Michigan Canners' School Available

Michigan State College at East Lansing, Michigan, has prepared a mimeographed report of the proceedings of the recent conference for canners and fieldmen, held at the college early in January. This publication contains reports made by members of the college staff and others on a number of subjects including asparagus growing, results of trials with southern and locally grown tomato plants, and evaluation of tomato varieties and strains for canning. Copies of the report may be had upon request directed to the above address.

Decline in Japanese Sardine and Crab Exports Continues

Exports of canned tomato sardines from Japan fell off sharply in February and March, bringing the figure for the first quarter of 1938 to 147,077 cases, a drop of 322,919 cases, or 70 per cent, below the first quarter of 1937, according to the office of the American commercial attache at Tokyo. Shipments to the Philippines and Southeastern Asia dropped from 140,986 cases to 49,848 in the 1938 first quarter.

Export business in canned crab remained far below normal in March, and shipments from Japan for the first quarter of 1938 amounted to only 26,448 cases, a drop of 66,612 cases, or 72 per cent, below the corresponding period of 1937. The outlook for the next few months is reported to be decidedly discouraging. Shipments to the United States during the first quarter amounted to 12,650 cases, a decline of nearly 80 per cent from the 1937 first quarter.

F. S. C. C. Buys Surplus Apples

Nearly 8½ million bushels of surplus fresh apples were purchased by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation for distribution to people on relief during the 1937-38 apple marketing season. Purchases included 5,627,637 bushels of fresh apples costing $3,362,097, and 2,839,663 bushels (7,386 tons) of dried apples costing $1,229,530.

Control of Pea Weevil

The Oregon Experiment Station at Corvallis has recently published as Station Circular 126 a detailed discussion of pea weevil entitled "Suggestions for the Control of Pea Weevil in Oregon with Especial Reference to Peas Grown for Processing." The publication contains information on the distribution and economic importance of the pea weevil, its seasonal history, the history of control studies, dusting equipment and the injury caused by same, dusting materials and rates of application, insecticidal effect of rotenone-containing dusts, field infestations of pea weevil in relation to the area to be dusted, time and number of applications, border trap crops, sanitation measures, cost of weevil control, the importance of supervision in weevil-control campaigns, and control of the insect in home gardens.

The circular is unusually well illustrated with pictures showing various stages in the life history of the weevil, together with types of dusting equipment. Copies of this publication may be obtained on application to the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Corvallis.

Malayan Pineapple Can Sizes Standardized

Effective March 1, 1938, the State Council for the Federated Malay States has issued regulations for the packing for export of pineapples or pineapple products, except pineapple juice, in cans of specified dimensions, according to the Government Gazette of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur, March 1. The regulations apply to all pineapple packing, except pineapple juice, in cans of 3 pounds or less, gross weight. A tolerance of one-sixteenth of an inch is allowed in the measurements of the sizes of cans specified for use in packing the product.

The standard can sizes were noted in the INFORMATION LETTER for April 9.

Mexican Bean Beetle Control Suggestions

Suggestions for the control of the Mexican bean beetle in New York State are contained in a brief circular prepared and distributed by the Geneva Experiment Station. Illustrations in this publication show the different life stages of the insect and the nature of its feeding injury in such a way that both the insect and its work may be readily identified in the field. The use of spray and dust treatments is explained, with notes on preparation of the spray and dust formulas and on the types of equipment required for effective dusting or spraying of large and small acreages. Copies of the bulletin may be obtained upon request directed to the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

Control of Cabbage Root Maggot

Treatment of early cabbage for control of the cabbage maggot includes the use of corrosive sublimate, calomel, and perhaps other methods, depending upon field conditions, according to a recent release from the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva. It is recommended that 1 ounce of the corrosive sublimate be dissolved in 10 gallons of water, and that this solution should then be applied to the newly set plants within 3 to 5 days after transplanting in such a way that the soil immediately around the base of each plant is thoroughly moistened.

The amount required will depend somewhat on the character of the soil, but ordinarily 3 ounces should be ample for each plant. The treatment should be repeated at least once and preferably twice at intervals of a week or ten days to insure complete control.

Unlawful Fixing of Prices Charged

Unlawful fixing of uniform prices and discounts, in violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act, is alleged by the Commission in a complaint issued against 17 manufacturers of paper, pulp and wooden dishes or trays used principally by groceries, delicatessen stores and meat markets as containers for food products. Food Dish Associates of America, an unincorporated trade association whose activities as such terminated in May, 1937, and its secretary and treasurer, Allan P. Durgin, also are respondents.

The complaint charges that the respondents (1) exchanged, through the medium of the trade association and its successors, price lists in order to establish the prices at which their respective products were to be sold; (2) fixed uniform prices at which their products were sold, and, at times, the discounts thereon; (3) required wholesalers, jobbers and other dealers to sell to ultimate consumers at uniform prices; (4) established a system of zones throughout the United States to aid in the fixing of prices; (5) agreed to give to each other prior notice of the fact that a sale was to be made at other than the established price; (6) collected and disseminated information concerning orders entered, production, shipments, unfilled orders on hand, inventories, prices at which dishes had been sold, costs, and production capacity of equipment of the industry.

Mexico Cancels Advance Collection on Net Value of Imports

The former requirement for 3 per cent of the net invoice value of goods exported to Mexico to be deposited with the Mexican consular officer before shipment, as an advance payment of income taxes, is omitted from the decree revising Article 14 of the Mexican Income Tax law, published in the Diario Oficial on May 16, and effective fifteen days thereafter, according to a cablegram from the American commercial attache at Mexico City.

After May 31, 1938, therefore, it will no longer be necessary for exporters to Mexico to pay the 3 per cent advance income tax. It is understood, however, that the requirement for the advance consular deposit by exporters of 5 per cent of the net value of goods shipped to Mexico, made as an advance payment of Mexican import duties, is not affected by the above decree, and will continue to be collected.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Congress summary	5549
Dulany honored by University of Maryland	5549
Chicago selected for convention	5549
D. C. business privilege tax	5550
Mold count in tomato juice	5550
Three hearings scheduled on hops program	5550
Maturity terms for peas	5551
Hearings planned on potato program	5551
Change in apple butter specifications	5551
Endorses Sauthoff bill	5551
Fruit and vegetable market competition	5552
Truckmen in New York indicted for racketeering	5552
American tomato juice sales to England	5552
English home economist broadcasts over WRC	5552
Tomato plant situation	5552
Red sour pitted cherries bid date changed	5552
Boys' class uses home economics material	5552
Canned fruit arrivals in British ports	5553
Additional supplies of shrimp found	5553
Wholesale trade in April	5553
Report on Michigan Canners' School available	5553
Decline in Japanese sardine and crab exports continues	5553
F. S. C. C. buys surplus apples	5553
Control of pea weevil	5553
Malayan pineapple can sizes standardized	5554
Mexican bean beetle control suggestions	5554
Control of cabbage root maggot	5554
Unlawful fixing of prices charged	5554
Mexico cancels advance collection on net value of imports	5554